

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-7 and 11, and add the following new claims.

1-11. (Canceled).

12. (New) A trash can assembly, comprising:

a shell having four side walls that are connected to each other to form an elongated configuration, the four side walls comprising a first side wall, a second side wall, a third side wall and a fourth side wall, with the first and third side walls being opposite and parallel to each other, and with the second and fourth side walls being opposite to each other;

wherein each side wall has a top edge, with the top edges of the side walls defining an open top for the shell;

wherein the first and third side walls are longer than the second and fourth side walls;

a first elongated lid portion having an inner edge, and a side edge hingedly coupled to the top edge of the first side wall;

a second elongated lid portion having an inner edge, and a side edge hingedly coupled to the top edge of the third side wall; and

wherein the inner edges of the lid portions are positioned side-by-side when the lid portions cover the open top of the shell.

13. (New) The assembly of claim 12, further including a frame that is secured to the top edges of the side walls, with the side edges of the lid portions hingedly coupled to the frame.

14. (New) The assembly of claim 13, wherein the frame is made from a different material as the lid portions.

15. (New) The assembly of claim 13, wherein the frame is made of plastic.

16. (New) The assembly of claim 15, wherein the lid portions are made of metal.

17. (New) The assembly of claim 12, wherein the inner edges of the lid portions define a center line for the open top of the shell.

18. (New) The assembly of claim 12, wherein the first and second lid portions are aligned in the same plane as the first and third side walls, respectively, when the first and second lid portions are completely opened.

19. (New) The assembly of claim 13:

wherein the frame defines a first elongated slot along the top edge of the first side wall and a second elongated slot along the top edge of the third side wall; and

wherein each lid portion has a sleeve provided along its side edge, with the sleeve of the first lid portion received inside the first elongated slot to hingedly couple the first lid portion to the top edge of the first side wall, and the sleeve of the second lid portion received inside the second elongated slot to hingedly couple the second lid portion to the top edge of the third side wall.

20. (New) A trash can assembly, comprising:

a shell having a linear top edge;

a frame that is secured to the linear top edge of the shell, the frame defining an elongated slot along the linear top edge; and

an elongated lid portion having a side edge, with a sleeve provided along the side edge and received inside the elongated slot to hingedly couple the lid portion to the linear top edge of the shell.

21. (New) The assembly of claim 20, wherein the frame is made from a different material as the lid portion.

22. (New) The assembly of claim 20, wherein the frame is made of plastic.

23. (New) The assembly of claim 22, wherein the lid portion is made of metal.

24. (New) A trash can assembly, comprising:

a shell having four side walls that are connected to each other to form an elongated configuration, the four side walls comprising a first side wall, a second side wall, a third side wall and a fourth side wall, with the first and third side walls being opposite and parallel to each other, and with the second and fourth side walls being opposite to each other;

wherein each side wall has a top edge, with the top edges of the side walls defining an open top for the shell;

wherein the first and third side walls are longer than the second and fourth side walls;

a first elongated lid portion having an enlarged inner edge, and a side edge hingedly coupled to the top edge of the first side wall;

a second elongated lid portion having an enlarged inner edge, and a side edge hingedly coupled to the top edge of the third side wall; and

wherein the inner edges of the lid portions are positioned side-by-side when the lid portions cover the open top of the shell.

25. (New) The assembly of claim 24, further including a frame that is secured to the top edges of the side walls, with the side edges of the lid portions hingedly coupled to the frame.

26. (New) The assembly of claim 25, wherein the frame is made from a different material as the lid portions.

27. (New) The assembly of claim 25, wherein the frame is made of plastic.

28. (New) The assembly of claim 27, wherein the lid portions are made of metal.

29. (New) The assembly of claim 24, wherein the inner edges of the lid portions define a center line for the open top of the shell.

30. (New) The assembly of claim 24, wherein the first and second lid portions are aligned in the same plane as the first and third side walls, respectively, when the first and second lid portions are completely opened.

31. (New) The assembly of claim 25:

wherein the frame defines a first elongated slot along the top edge of the first side wall and a second elongated slot along the top edge of the third side wall; and

wherein each lid portion has a sleeve provided along its side edge, with the sleeve of the first lid portion received inside the first elongated slot to hingedly couple the first lid portion to the top edge of the first side wall, and the sleeve of the second lid portion received inside the second elongated slot to hingedly couple the second lid portion to the top edge of the third side wall.